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USDA BULLETIN BOARD

Broadcast by Ruth Van Deman, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics; and Wallace Kadderly, Chief of Radio Service, in the Department of Agriculture's portion of the National Farm and Home Hour, Friday, September 17, 1943, over stations associated with the Blue Network.

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ANNOUNCER: In Washington, here are Wallace Kadderly and Ruth Van Deman...

KADDERLY: ...catching up on Bulletin Board items...

VAN DEMAN: ...items about fruit and vegetable crates, feathers for war...

KADDERLY: ...protection for peach trees, and control of apple sales.

VAN DEMAN: First about fruit and vegetable crates. Home canners are asked to return the empty crates and baskets to their dealers, who will return them to growers and packing houses. This is one of the little things that will really help, for wooden containers are scarce. Please take empty fruit and vegetable crates and baskets to the dealer from whom you bought.

Now about feathers. This is a report on research. Chicken feathers are used in camouflage work. And with new methods of curling and processing, they are now much more suitable for sleeping bags and pillows. But many chicken feathers have been wasted or used as fertilizer because nobody had developed a practical way to make wet feathers keep while being shipped from chicken-dressing plants to feather processing establishments. In the future, we can salvage and use millions of pounds of those feathers. Department of Agriculture research people have learned how to preserve wet feathers by soaking them in a combination of two weak acids.

KADDERLY: Here's another report on research...this concerns peach trees. The Department has had good experimental results from a new method of protecting peach trees against the destructive root-knot nematode. The method: to plant around the trees cover crops that are unappetizing to the nematodes. Then the pest fails to grow and multiply normally. One cover crop seems to be immune to the nematode. That's crotalaria. Oats are very resistant.

Last item...control of the sale of apples. The commercial apple crop is 28 percent smaller than last year. In view of the short crop and the need for processed apples to supply war requirements, War Food Administration and Office of Price Administration have announced plans to limit shipments of apples for fresh use and to put price ceilings on apple products, as well as fresh apples.

That's all of the Bulletin Board. Now the market report.

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